Occupation Profile

DIETITIANS AND NUTRITIONISTS: MISSISSIPPI

Occupation Description
Plan and conduct food service or nutritional programs to assist in the promotion of health and control of disease. May supervise activities of a department providing quantity food services, counsel individuals, or conduct nutritional research.

State and National Wages

- High is the wage at which 90% of workers earn less and 10% earn more.
- Middle is the wage at which 50% of workers earn less and 50% earn more.
- Low is the wage at which 10% of workers earn less and 90% earn more.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Pay Period</th>
<th>10%</th>
<th>25%</th>
<th>Median</th>
<th>75%</th>
<th>90%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>Hourly</td>
<td>$16.34</td>
<td>$21.35</td>
<td>$26.88</td>
<td>$32.93</td>
<td>$37.85</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yearly</td>
<td>$34,000</td>
<td>$44,400</td>
<td>$55,900</td>
<td>$68,500</td>
<td>$78,700</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mississippi</td>
<td>Hourly</td>
<td>$16.04</td>
<td>$19.21</td>
<td>$22.74</td>
<td>$28.01</td>
<td>$34.44</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Yearly</td>
<td>$33,400</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
<td>$47,300</td>
<td>$58,300</td>
<td>$71,600</td>
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</table>
Occupation Profile - America's Career InfoNet

Occupation Wages FAQs

Median Wage by Occupation Across States
Compare Wages by Occupation and Local Area
Compare Wages by Metropolitan Areas

State Data Source: Mississippi Occupational Wages

State and National Trends

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>United States</th>
<th>Mississippi</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dietitians and Nutritionists</td>
<td>67,400</td>
<td>580</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>81,600</td>
<td>670</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent Change</td>
<td>+21%</td>
<td>+15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projected Annual Job Openings</td>
<td>2,230</td>
<td>20</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

1Projected Annual Job Openings refers to the average annual job openings due to growth and net replacement.

Occupation Trends FAQs

Employment Trends by Occupation Across States
Compare Employment Trends by Occupation
Employment Trends by Industry and Occupation

State Data Source: Mississippi Department of Employment Security

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

The most important knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSAs) are listed for Dietitians and Nutritionists.

Knowledge:

- **Customer and Personal Service** - Knowledge of principles and processes for providing customer and personal services. This includes customer needs assessment, meeting quality standards for services, and evaluation of customer satisfaction.
- **Education and Training** - Knowledge of principles and methods for curriculum and training design, teaching and instruction for individuals and groups, and the measurement of training effects.
- **English Language** - Knowledge of the structure and content of the English language including the meaning and spelling of words, rules of composition, and grammar.
- **Biology** - Knowledge of plant and animal organisms, their tissues, cells, functions, interdependencies, and interactions with each other and the environment.
- **Medicine and Dentistry** - Knowledge of the information and techniques needed to diagnose and treat human injuries, diseases, and deformities. This includes symptoms, treatment alternatives, drug properties and interactions, and preventive health-care measures.

Skills:

- **Reading Comprehension** - Understanding written sentences and paragraphs in work related documents.
- **Active Listening** - Giving full attention to what other people are saying, taking time to understand the points being made, asking questions as appropriate, and not interrupting at inappropriate times.
- **Critical Thinking** - Using logic and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions or approaches to problems.
- **Monitoring** - Monitoring/Assessing performance of yourself, other individuals, or organizations to make improvements or take corrective action.
- **Speaking** - Talking to others to convey information effectively.

Abilities:

- **Deductive Reasoning** - The ability to apply general rules to specific problems to produce answers that make sense.
- **Oral Comprehension** - The ability to listen to and understand information and ideas presented through spoken words and sentences.
- **Oral Expression** - The ability to communicate information and ideas in speaking so others will understand.
- **Problem Sensitivity** - The ability to tell when something is wrong or is likely to go wrong. It does not involve solving the problem, only recognizing there is a problem.
- **Written Comprehension** - The ability to read and understand information and ideas presented in writing.
- **Written Expression** - The ability to communicate information and ideas in writing so others will understand.
Tasks and Activities

Occupation specific tasks and the most important generalized work activities are listed for Dietitians and Nutritionists.

Occupation Specific Tasks:

- Monitor food service operations to ensure conformance to nutritional, safety, sanitation and quality standards.
- Assess nutritional needs, diet restrictions and current health plans to develop and implement dietary-care plans and provide nutritional counseling.
- Advise patients and their families on nutritional principles, dietary plans and diet modifications, and food selection and preparation.
- Counsel individuals and groups on basic rules of good nutrition, healthy eating habits, and nutrition monitoring to improve their quality of life.
- Consult with physicians and health care personnel to determine nutritional needs and diet restrictions of patient or client.
- Plan, conduct, and evaluate dietary, nutritional, and epidemiological research.
- Write research reports and other publications to document and communicate research findings.
- Manage quantity food service departments or clinical and community nutrition services.
- Purchase food in accordance with health and safety codes.
- Coordinate diet counseling services.
- Make recommendations regarding public policy, such as nutrition labeling, food fortification, and nutrition standards for school programs.
- Inspect meals served for conformance to prescribed diets and standards of palatability and appearance.
- Select, train and supervise workers who plan, prepare and serve meals.
- Plan and prepare grant proposals to request program funding.
- Coordinate recipe development and standardization and develop new menus for independent food service operations.
- Confer with design, building, and equipment personnel to plan for construction and remodeling of food service units.
- Test new food products and equipment.

Generalized Work Activities:

- Getting Information - Observing, receiving, and otherwise obtaining information from all relevant sources.
- Communicating with Supervisors, Peers, or Subordinates - Providing information to supervisors, co-workers, and subordinates by telephone, in written form, e-mail, or in person.
- Establishing and Maintaining Interpersonal Relationships - Developing constructive and cooperative working relationships with others, and maintaining them over time.
- Performing for or Working Directly with the Public - Performing for people or dealing directly with the public. This includes serving customers in restaurants and stores, and receiving clients or guests.
- Updating and Using Relevant Knowledge - Keeping up-to-date technically and applying new knowledge to your job.

Detailed Work Activities:

- Advise communities or institutions regarding health or safety issues.
- Analyze patient data to determine patient needs or treatment goals.
- Collaborate with healthcare professionals to plan or provide treatment.
- Conduct health or safety training programs.
- Conduct research to increase knowledge about medical issues.
- Consult with others regarding safe or healthy equipment or facilities.
- Design public or employee health programs.
- Direct healthcare delivery programs.
- Manage healthcare operations.
- Manage preparation of special meals or diets.
- Monitor medical facility activities to ensure adherence to standards or regulations.
- Order medical supplies or equipment.
- Prepare healthcare training materials.
- Present medical research reports.
- Provide health and wellness advice to patients, program participants, or caregivers.
- Supervise medical support personnel.
- Train caregivers or other non-medical personnel.
- Train medical providers.

Source: [Occupational Information Network: Dietitians and Nutritionists](https://data.october2014.com/)

### Tools and Technology

#### Dietitians and Nutritionists

View Detailed Report

**Tools:**
- **Bodyweight measuring scales** - Hydrostatic weighing machines
- **Calorimeters** - Metabolic carts
- **Desktop computers** - Desktop computers
- **Glucose monitors or meters** - Glucometers
- **Impedance meters** - Bioelectric impedance machines

**Technology:**
- **Analytical or scientific software** - Aurora FoodPro, Axxya Systems Nutritionist Pro software, Compu-Cal Nutrition Assistant, ESHA Research The Food Processor, Mosby's Nutritrac
- **Data base user interface and query software** - CyberSoft NutriBase software, Database software, DietMaster Systems DietMaster, ValuSoft MasterCook
- **Medical software** - BioEx Systems Nutrition Maker Plus, Lifestyles Technologies DietMaster Pro, MNT Northwest MNT Assistant, SureQuest Systems Square 1
- **Spreadsheet software** - Microsoft Excel, Spreadsheet software
- **Word processing software** - Microsoft Word, Word processing software

Source: [Occupational Information Network: Dietitians and Nutritionists](https://data.october2014.com/)
Access additional Education Resources in the Career Resource Library.

Use the Financial Aid Advisor to help find funds for financing education.


Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Office of Occupational Statistics and Employment Projections (Education/Training Level, Educational Attainment); National Center for Education Statistics (Typical Instructional Programs)

### Related Occupation Profiles

Occupations with similar skill requirements

- Dietetic Technicians
- Farm and Home Management Advisors
- First-Line Supervisors of Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Workers
- First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers
- Health Educators

### Web Resources

The following resources are related to occupations in the job family

Healthcare Practitioners and Technical

Health Diagnosing and Treating Practitioners
Health Technologists and Technicians
Other Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations

**Health Diagnosing and Treating Practitioners**

- AIDS Care Nurse, Nursing Spectrum
- Ambulatory Care Nurse, Nursing Spectrum
- Audiologist (Doctor of Audiology), ExploreHealthCareers.org
- Audiologist, Occupational Outlook Handbook
- Audiology, American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
- Becoming a Veterinarian, American Veterinary Medical Association
- Cardiac Rehabilitation Nurse, Nursing Spectrum
- Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists, American Association of Nurse Anesthetists
- Chiropractor, Princeton Review
- Chiropractors, California Occupational Guide
- Chiropractors, Occupational Outlook Handbook
- Clinical Laboratory Technologist/Technician, ExploreHealthCareers.org
- Correctional Nurse, Nursing Spectrum
- Dentist, ExploreHealthCareers.org
- Dentist, American Dental Association
- Dentist, Princeton Review
- Dentists, Occupational Outlook Handbook
- Dentists, Human Resources and Skills Development Canada
- Dietitians, Human Resources and Skills Development Canada
- Dietitian, ExploreHealthCareers.org
- Dietitians and Nutritionists, Human Resources and Skills Development Canada
- Dietitians and Nutritionists, Occupational Outlook Handbook
- Doctor of Optometry, Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry
- Emergency Nurse, Nurses for a Healthier Tomorrow
- Enteral/Parenteral Therapy Nurse, Nursing Spectrum
- Genetics Nurse, Nursing Spectrum
- Hospice Nurse, Princeton Review
- Hospice/Palliative Care Nurses, Nurses for a Healthier Tomorrow
- Infection Control Nurse, Nursing Spectrum
- Intravenous Therapy Nurse, Nursing Spectrum
- Kinesiotherapist, ExploreHealthCareers.org
- Labor and Delivery Staff Nurse, Nurses for a Healthier Tomorrow
- Long-Term Care Nurse, Nursing Spectrum
- Managed Care Nurse, Nursing Spectrum
- Medical Careers, Association of American Medical Colleges
- Medicine and Health, WetFeet.com
- Nephrology Nurse, Nursing Spectrum
- Nurse, Princeton Review
- Nurse Anesthetists, Nurse Midwives, and Nurse Practitioners, Occupational Outlook Handbook
- Nurse Executive, Nurses for a Healthier Tomorrow
Health Technologists and Technicians
• Biological Technologists and Technicians, Human Resources and Skills Development Canada
• Blood Bank Technology Specialist, ExploreHealthCareers.org
• Cardiovascular Technologist/Technician, ExploreHealthCareers.org
• Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians, California Occupational Guide
• Chemical Technicians, California Occupational Guide
• Clinical Laboratory Technologist/Technician, ExploreHealthCareers.org
• Cytotechnologist, ExploreHealthCareers.org
• Dental Hygienist, ExploreHealthCareers.org
• Dental Hygienist, American Dental Association
• Dental Hygienists, Occupational Outlook Handbook
• Dental Hygienists, California Occupational Guide
• Diagnostic Medical Sonographers and Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians, Including Vascular Technologists, Occupational Outlook Handbook
• Diagnostic Radiologic Technologists, California Occupational Guide
• Dietetic Technician, ExploreHealthCareers.org
• Dietetic Technicians, Occupational Outlook Handbook
• Dietitians and Nutritionists, California Occupational Guide
• Dosimetrist, ExploreHealthCareers.org
• Electroneurodiagnostic Technologist, ExploreHealthCareers.org
• Emergency Medical Technician/Paramedic, ExploreHealthCareers.org
• Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics, California Occupational Guide
• EMTs and Paramedics, Occupational Outlook Handbook
• Hearing Aid Specialists, Occupational Outlook Handbook
• Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses, Occupational Outlook Handbook
• Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses, California Occupational Guide
• Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technologists, California Occupational Guide
• Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technologists and Technicians, Occupational Outlook Handbook
• Medical Assistants, California Occupational Guide
• Medical Laboratory Professions, American Society for Clinical Pathology
• Medical Laboratory Science Professional, American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science
• Medical Records and Health Information Technicians, California Occupational Guide
• Medical Records and Health Information Technicians, Occupational Outlook Handbook
• Neonatal Nurse, Nurses for a Healthier Tomorrow
• Nuclear Medicine Technologist, ExploreHealthCareers.org
• Nuclear Medicine Technologists, Occupational Outlook Handbook
• Ophthalmic Laboratory Technician, ExploreHealthCareers.org
• Ophthalmic Medical Technicians, Occupational Outlook Handbook
• Optician [Dispensing], ExploreHealthCareers.org
• Opticians, Human Resources and Skills Development Canada
• Opticians, Dispensing, California Occupational Guide
• Opticians, Dispensing, Occupational Outlook Handbook
• Orthotist and Prosthetist, ExploreHealthCareers.org
• Orthotists and prosthetists, Occupational Outlook Handbook
• Paramedic, Princeton Review
• Perfusionist, ExploreHealthCareers.org
• Pharmacy Technicians, Occupational Outlook Handbook
• Pharmacy Technicians, California Occupational Guide
• Psychiatric Technicians, California Occupational Guide
• Psychiatric Technicians and Aides, Occupational Outlook Handbook
• Radiologic and MRI Technologists, Occupational Outlook Handbook
• Radiologic Technologist, ExploreHealthCareers.org
• Registered Dietetic Technician, American Dietetic Association
• Respiratory Therapy Technicians, Occupational Outlook Handbook
• Surgical Technologist, ExploreHealthCareers.org
• Surgical Technologists, California Occupational Guide
• Surgical Technologists, Occupational Outlook Handbook
• Surgical Technology, Association of Surgical Technologists
• Veterinary Technologists and Technicians, Occupational Outlook Handbook
• Veterinary Technologists and Technicians, California Occupational Guide

Other Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations
• Athletic Trainer, ExploreHealthCareers.org
• Athletic Trainers and Exercise Physiologists, Occupational Outlook Handbook
• Genetic Counselors, Occupational Outlook Handbook
• Occupational Health and Safety Specialists, Occupational Outlook Handbook
• Occupational health and safety technicians, Occupational Outlook Handbook
• Women's Health Nurse Practitioner, Nurses for a Healthier Tomorrow